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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 24
LR 74

Governor or allowed to pass into law without his or her signature after a certain expiration of days...or expiration of a certain number of days. This bill ought not to have been of concern to the Governor. This is a policy decision made by the Legislature and it is made in order that we will have knowledge necessary to implement broader-based policy decisions, decisions that go directly to the health, the welfare of society...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...at large, to our children, and I cannot, for the life of me, understand why the money is going to be left and we do not pass the underlying bill. Somebody is going to correct me and say, you said this won't break the budget if we vote, and I mean that because the money has already been approved. If the Governor is trying to be fiscally conservative, or whatever, that's what should have been vetoed. But the money is there. The hard part has been done. Let us now come fill the cup. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Jensen, on the motion to override.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, LR 24 (sic--LR 74) talks about the development of a plan to implement a statewide immunization registry and that...that might be absolutely proper to do that. However, to maintain a registry is going to cost about \$600,000 a year. Nebraska ranks eighth in the nation in the per capita of children who are immunized. We rank...of that, about 80 percent of our kids get immunized. Now, is that good? Boy, I'd like to see it 100 percent. The national average, by the way, is 73 percent. But we did pass this year LB 692, which will give to every single county dollars for public health expenditures. I would hope that some of those dollars will go to support immunization registry. Some of our counties already have that. I think we're going to provide enough dollars to do that. But if we're going to spend \$600,000 to maintain a registry, could we spend that \$600,000 better advertising to individuals, to parents, to make sure their kids get immunized? That's probably the biggest thing that is stopping kids from being